



*Stewards of the
Pedestrian Master Plan*

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November 4, 2011

The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board hereby announces its endorsement of the Seattle Transportation Benefit District's Proposition Number 1. The Proposition 1 ballot measure will implement the recommendations of the Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee III and fund improvements to transportation facilities within the City of Seattle, including road infrastructure, transit, and pedestrian, bicycle and freight mobility.

Earlier this year, the national Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center ranked Seattle as America's most Walk Friendly Community – offering its sole "Platinum" designation to the Emerald City. Seattle earned this recognition due to the years of work the City and its citizens have put into developing walkable communities, as evidenced in the Seattle Pedestrian Master Plan (SPMP). While funding for the Pedestrian Master Plan remains far below the need, the Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board believes that Proposition 1 is a step in the right direction toward full implementation of the plan.

The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board endorses Proposition 1 not only because of the benefits it will provide to pedestrians, but because of the advantages it provides to everyone in Seattle. Drivers will benefit from pavement repair and maintenance, while bus riders will benefit through enhanced transit service. Bicycle and pedestrian facilities will be improved for people to use when they get off the bus and out of their cars. The development of a freight mobility plan will help boost Seattle's economy at a time when our city needs it the most. And all residents of Seattle will benefit from the resulting safety improvements. The changes that will result from the passing of Proposition 1 are long overdue, and Seattle cannot continue to wait for the urgent transportation solutions it deserves.

Admittedly, Proposition 1 does not remedy all of Seattle's transportation issues, but it will improve current transportation choices and help prevent infrastructure decay while we wait for a more opportune economic cycle. The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board would like to see a more equitable funding method so that the impact is not as disproportionate to the Seattle residents least able to afford it. That said, Proposition 1 will improve mobility options within the city and have a beneficial impact on all transportation modes in Seattle in multiple ways. Proposition 1 is an opportunity for voters to invest in Seattle now and reap the reward for years. For these reasons, the Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board endorses Proposition 1 and encourages Seattle to keep the city moving and vote "Yes" on Proposition 1 this November 8.

Jon Morgan, Chair

The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board shall advise the City Council, the Mayor and all the offices of the city on matters related to pedestrians and the impacts which actions by the city may have upon the pedestrian environment; and shall have the opportunity to contribute to all aspects of the city's planning insofar as they relate to the pedestrian safety and access.

~City Council Resolution
28791

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